Request to amend Indian Electricity Act, 1910 and Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948

1527. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra have requested the Central Government to amend the Indian Electricity Act, 1910 and Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948 in order to attract Private Sector and Non-Resident Indians to Power Generation; and

,(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what is Central Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The question of facilitating the participation of the private sector in power generation is receiving attention and the necessary modalities in this regard are being examined.

Pending gas based power stations in Maharashtra

1528. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what are the proposals for setting up of gas based power stations in Maharashtra which are pending with the Central Government for sanction;

(b) since when these are pending and what are the reasons for the delay project-wise; and

(c) what steps Government are taking for the early clearance of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) The requisite information is as follows:—

(i) waste Heat Recovery Units-II & III (of 120 MW each) at the Uran gas turbine power statoin;

(ii) Dabhol gas turbinei Combined Cycle (GTCC) Power Project (760 MW);

(iii) Trombay GTCC Power Project (180 MW).

(b) and (c) While invest approval in respect of the Waste Heat Recovery Unit-II has been accorded in December, 1987, Unit-Ill could be considered for investment decision after the .gas linkage" for the same has been established.

The proposals relating to the gas turbine Combined Cycle Power projects at Dabhol and Tfombay—which were received in the CEA in March, 1989—could be processed further after the various inputs, including the availability of gas, are tied up and the requisite clearances have been obtained.

Demands raised by Maharashtra Government in Energy Ministers' Conference

• 1529. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what were the demands made by Government of Maharashtra in the last Energy Ministers' Conference held recently; and

(b) what is the reaction of the Central Government to each of the demands?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRI KALPNATH RAI): (a) During the ■ Conference of Power Ministers of States held on the 23rd and 24th January, 1989, some of the important issues raised by the Government of Maharashtra related to regular payment by concerned States for sale of power by Maharashtra to them, sanctioning of new power projects including Gas based stations for benefits during the Eighth Plan period, permission fcr raising of Bonds" by Maharashtra State Electricity Board, high rates of interest charged by Rural Electrification Corporation, expediting clearances to power projects from Environment and Forest angles, encouraging private sector participation in the generation of power, and increasing the upper limit for clearance of projects by State Electricity Boards without reference to the Central Electricity Authority, to Rs. 10 crores.